

ABSTRACT

SILVER SOLDER OR BRAZING ALLOYS AND THEIR USE

[00081] The present invention relates to silver solder or brazing alloys and to their use in making soldered joints in various grades of silver, particularly silversmithing grades. They alloys are of the Ag-Cu-Zn family containing at least 55 wt % Ag and from 0.5 to 3 wt% Ge. Additional alloys are silver solders or brazing alloys of the Ag-Cu-Zn family containing more than 70 wt % Ag and from 0.5 to 3 wt% Ge. They can exhibit an advantageous combination of colour, flowability and corrosion resistance. A method is also provided of making a joint in Sterling silver which includes using a silver solder or brazing alloy of the Ag-Cu-Zn family containing 10-30 wt% Cu, 8-15 wt % Zn, from 0.5 - 3 wt% Ge, optionally 0.05-0.4 wt % Si, optionally 1-3 wt% Sn, optionally 1ppm-0.3 wt% B, the balance being 55-77wt%, Ag, said solder being a colour match for said Sterling silver.